

guess I have some qualms about that. I also have some personal misgivings as far as Senator Vickers' purpose of this amendment and I hope, in fact, that if the amendment is adopted by this body that he will be supportive of LB 204. As you may or may not know, we have committed close to a half a million dollars of state general fund tax dollars to try and get a regional veterinarian college in this state. Of course, LB 204 goes further and continues that process of trying to ensure that the college is finally built in a cooperative venture with whatever state is deemed appropriate. As you probably are well aware of, we are working with Mississippi State. There are also other states involved, including Kansas State and probably Iowa State, and some others. But rather than get on the bill itself and get back to Senator Vickers' amendment, as I indicated to you before, I have some misgivings. I also have some optimism about this amendment because I can see the need for us to cooperate with the University to have some legislative oversight as far as where our dollars are committed. But we are putting that power into the hands of just four people, really, and that somewhat scares me. Irregardless of who those four people may be, I still have some misgivings that this Legislature as a body cannot make up their own mind as far as what projects are important to our state and which ones are not. And, quite frankly, I question whether an agreement between Nebraska and possibly Mississippi State would be approved by this oversight committee, if, in fact, that is the institution we feel that has got the best chance or offering us the best possible program. So I just ask you to consider that when you vote on this particular measure. I certainly hope if it does or if it is adopted by this body, that my colleague, Senator Vickers, a co-sponsor of this bill will be supportive of the measure because I see it as a good faith attempt. It is a significant amendment. There is no question about that and I ask you to seriously consider that when you are voting on this amendment because it certainly is breaking, I think, some new ground and one that we need to be seriously contemplating before we vote.

SENATOR MARSH: There is an amendment to the Vickers amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, Senator Pappas would move to amend the Vickers amendment. (Pappas amendment appears on page 1999 of the Legislative Journal.)